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PUBLIC	BROADCASTING	RATE	PROCEEDINGS	:
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1111 20th Street, Northwest Room 450 Washington, D.C.

Monday, June 5, 1978

The hearing in the above-entitled matter commenced at 2:00 p.m.

BEFORE:

COMMISSIONER THOMAS C. BRENNAN, Chairman
COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS E. COULTER
COMMISSIONER MARY LOU BURG
COMMISSIONER CLARENCE L. JAMES, JR.
COMMISSIONER FRANCES GARCIA



PRESENT:

BERNARD KORMAN
I. FRED KOENIGSBERG

Counsel for ASCAP

ERIC SMITH ALLEN LATMAN

Counsel for PBS

ALSO PRESENT:

ALBERT F. CIANCIMINO, SESAC

JEFFREY TELLIS, Intercollegiate Broadcasting Network SHELDON E. STEINBACH, American Council on Education

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CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: The meeting will come to order.

All parties with an interest in this proceeding were personally notified of this meeting. Because of the requirements of the Copyright Act, it was not possible to provide other public notice. In response to the request of Commissioner Garcia, we have received statements from ASCAP and the Public Broadcasting Service. And I direct that those statements be made part of the record of this proceeding.

This Commissioner has a few questions for both Mr. Korman and Mr. Smith as a result of those letters. And if Mr. Korman will indulge me, I will ask my questions of Mr. Korman first.

Mr. Korman, Mr. Smith in his letter on behalf of the Public Broadcasting Service makes the argument that PBS and NPR and the regional networks come for purposes of Section 118, only within Clause Two of Section 118d; and that, consequently, it would be beyond our jurisdiction to consider the revenues of those networks in establishing the ASCAP payment.

Your statement contain a partial discussion of that issue. But I think it would be helpful if you would amplify ASCAP's position on this issue.

MR. KORMAN: I'd be glad to, Mr. Chairman. I think, first, that under the Copyright Act, it is clear that any public television network is performing. And that

it is performing publicly, and therefore, would, if it's

performances were not authorized, be infringing to the

extent that it was performing copyrighted works. So, it

follows, I think, that either these networks may obtain

permission in the normal way, that is to say, outside the

scope of Section 118, or they may be within the scope of

Section 118 and entitled to the benefits of a compulsory

license.

In the House report there is reference, and we quote it at the bottom of page three of our letter, dated June 2, 1978, making clear that it is—let me quote from the report. "It is the intent of the Committee that "Interconnection" activities serving as a technical adjunct to such local stations transmissions, such as the use of satellites or microwave equipment, be included within the specified activities of Section 118d".

Now, those activities, as we show just above on page three include the distribution of programs, include the transmission, Mr. Chairman. And running through, as we do in the letter, the meaning of these various terms, it's clear that a transmission—that a performance may occur in the course of the transmission, that a transmission is indeed a blank performance itself.

I think that the public broadcasters are on the horns of a dilemma. They either are in a position where they

must obtain permission outside the scope of Section 118 or have the benefit of the compulsory license provisions of that section. It is, I think, possible, and in Mr. Smith's letter he refers to double. It is possible to conceive of a system where only a network would need a performance license or where only the stations would.

It would depend on the terms of the license in the case of a voluntary license, or perhaps it would depend on what this Tribunal were to decide. The public broadcasters say that it was Congress' intent that networks not be licensed. I don't find any basis for that statement anywhere with respect to the need to license networks for performances.

They say that Congress was clear that it did not have any such thing in mind. In view of the fact that the only analogy with which anyone was familiar with in the commercial world where networks are licensed, it would seem to me that the reasonable inference is that Congress did, indeed, intend the public broadcasting networks to be licensed. As a matter of fact, all of our preliminary discussions at the time of the hearings, which were referred to in the hearings, have dealt with licensing the networks, and not licensing the stations at all.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: In those contacts of the double payment there is reference to the CBS matter. Could you enlighten us a little bit on that as to ASCAP's position?

MR. KORMAN: Well, could you cite that to me?
We just got that letter before the hearing, Mr. Chairman.
I think there they were talking about paying on a basis
other than use. Is that what you're referring to?

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Yes. On the bottom of page seven, Mr. Korman. What brought that paragraph to mind was your reference to the commercial practice. And it might be well at this time if you also were to address yourself to that issue.

MR. KORMAN: CBS has never argued in the CBS case, or otherwise, that it does not require a license for its performances. The argument with CBS has simply been the manner in which the fee should be computed, with CBS arguing that it should pay perhaps an overall administrative fee and thereafter a fee based only the compositions actually use. But it has never argued, as the public broadcasters are arguing here, that because each of its affiliates has a license to perform, therefore, the network as such does not need a license to perform.

Now, CBS has always agreed that it does, at least always since 1941 when networks were first licensed, that it does require a license because its performance is distinct and different, as the language in the reports that we quote in our letter show, from the performance of the individual stations. And quite obviously, I think it requires

no argument, a performance being heard by a nationwide audience through the facilities of many affiliates is an entirely different order of value than performance by a group of individual local stations, which does not reach anything like a national audience.

There's nothing in the CBS case, Mr. Chairman, that supports the argument that the public broadcasters make, nor did the commercial broadcasters, in their letter, say anything more than they think they're paying too much for music. Now, they cannot argue that they have in fact paid on the basis of revenue, because they haven't. They would like to get off on that basis because they would pay less—not quite so vigorously as our friends here would like to pay less.

On the CBS case, so long as it has been raised,
Mr. Chairman, we asserted at the hearing at one point that
we were on route to the Supreme Court by way of a
petition. We have filed such a position, as has BMI. And it
occurs to me that perhaps the petition ought to be part of
this record, if the Tribunal so desires, just so that with
respect to the old notion of per use fees or per composition
fees, as the public broadcasters have called the same idea
here, the Tribunal may know what the issues are in the CBS
case.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Is there any objection to making the petition part of the record?

COMMISSIONER JAMES: Yes.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Objection has been heard.

MR. KORMAN: In any event, the record will show that such a petition has been filed and will be ruled on in October, CBS having obtained an extension of time to file its opposing brief to August 2.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Now, turning to another subject, Mr. Korman, I would like you to listen carefully to this hypothetical package resolution of the PBS-NPR-ASCAP issue, and then indicate to me all the negative aspects that you find in it.

The Tribunal would affirm that revenue is an appropriate basis for determining the compensation to be paid to ASCAP, that a blanket license is the preferred method, that in determining the initial payment, we would use some variation of Commissioner Garcia's formula, that that formula would be applied to the latest available official figures as to Public Broadcasting revenue, that the figure that results from that calculation would appear as a lump sum yearly payment in our final rule. The formula, as such, would not be part of the rule. The flat sum payment would be subject to the inflation adjustment as of January 1, 1981, and it would be provided that even though this is a lump sum payment to be made by PBS and NPR, that individual television and radio stations are fully subject

to the rate and the terms.

Now, I'm sure you will find many deficiencies in that proposal, and would you enumerate those?

COMMISSIONER JAMES: One moment, Mr. Chairman, you said this was Public Broadcasting's proposal?

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: No, I made no such statement.

MR. KORMAN: This is a hypothetical.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Hypothetical.

COMMISSIONER JAMES: Oh, okay, I'm sorry.

MR. KORMAN: I, before responding to
Mr. Chairman, may tell you that yesterday I attended by
son's commencement exercises and George Clemton was the
commencement speaker. And he spoke of his experience,
taking a degree at Cambridge University, where the practice
is that when studies for whatever the period of time is—in
this case it was two years—with no examinations.

At the end of the two-year period, one is examined. Part of the examination is a question for which you cannot prepare; it is a two-hour essay or a three-hour essay question. And the theory at Cambridge University is that anyone who has been there for two years ought to be able to write an intelligent and incisive essay on any subject for three hours.

He was asked, when he opened the examination paper, to write an essay on somebody named Charles Fox. He

had no idea who Charles Fox was. He struggled for a while.

He was actually a minister at the time and supported the

colonies, so he said, and everyone really should have known

him. But he struggled for a while. And finally after a

half hour or so, he wrote for three hours on an imaginary

Charles Fox, who he said was a poor second basement for the

Chicago White Sox. He wound up getting his degree with

honors.

I shall, however, be more relevant in my response to your hypothetical.

COMMISSIONER JAMES: Mr. Chairman, so I can understand that response to the hypothetical, can the reporter read the hypothetical again, or can you give it again?

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: I think it might be quicker if I mentioned it. And if I don't use exactly the same verbage, Commissioner, it's not intended to suggest a change, but just the Chairman doesn't have total recall.

The Tribunal would affirm that revenue is an appropriate basis for determining compensation to ASCAP.

We would affirm that the blanket license is the preferred method. We would generally accept Commissioner Garcia's formula. We would apply that formula to the latest official information as to the revenues of the Public Broadcasting System and NPR. That the sum that is produced by the application of the Commissioner's formula to the

report of the revenues would be fixed as a flat sum in our rule. The formula as such would not appear as part of the rule, but would, of course, be discussed in the comments. That that sum would remain in force until the period set on January 1, 1983 for the new rate to apply, subject only to the inflation adjustment, which goes into effect on January 1, 1981.

I think I have restated the hypothetical as originally presented. And also I think in the process the Commissioner is giving Mr. Korman to further reflect.

MR. KORMAN: By "official" figures, Mr. Chairman,
I take it you mean something other than what was suggested
by Commissioner Garcia originally. All figures for
Public Broadcasting, I suppose, are official. Now, are you
referring to certified in some way or audited figures?

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: It's our understanding that 1976 figures are the latest available. Is that correct, Mr. Smith?

MR. SMITH: There are some preliminary '77 figures available. But at this point in time, they aren't certified until September '79--FY'77. No, I'm sorry, that's incorrect. I was thinking of FY'78. '77 figures are available and were certified last September.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Then we would use whatever the latest figures are, Mr. Korman.

MR. KORMAN: So, there was no change then from Commissioner Garcia's proposal in terms of whether they are official or not. They are figures for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1970 that would be used for the basis for the -- I'm sorry -- 1977 that would be used as the basis for the 1978 fee. Is that correct?

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: As the basis for the entire--MR. KORMAN: For the entire period?

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Yes.

MR. KORMAN: It seems clear that we are dealing here with an industry that is growing rapidly. It is my understanding that the growth between 1976 and 1977 was in the order of 15 percent. And if you're talking about a five-year contract, five-year term rather, where there is going to be anything like that rate of growth, then it would be a gutting, I think, of Commissioner Garcia's proposal to take a single year in the beginning and freeze the figure, except for an adjustment which is minor in this context for the inflation which would be made only once and then in 1981.

I frankly wouldn't care if it were made each year, I would object strenuously to it because if this Tribunal is to be true to the decision that it made at the last hearing, that is to base the reasonable fee on revenues, then it cannot take one year and say: those are the fees,

and I realize this is what the public broadcasters are proposing, should be it for the whole five-year period. There either is or is not, I suggest, a logic to using revenue as a base for the fee. Clearly, experience shows that there is logic because it's what's done in the commercial world, and it's what's done in other countries.

It is not a new notion that we put before you because it is your first problem and we hope to catch you unaware, it's quite the contrary. What we are doing is proposing the comment usual, ordinary, customary way of doing it. And I can see no reason to start with a lump sum and adjust merely for inflation and think that that does the job.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Your answer does not come as a surprise, Mr. Korman. You gave me the answer that I anticipated.

ASCAP, earlier in these proceedings, has asked us to consider one aspect, in particular of the SESAC voluntary agreement, namely, the amount of the payment. If I misstate the terms of the SESAC agreement, I am sure I will be promptly corrected. But my recollection is that in that agreement there is a payment of \$50,000 which remains constant throughout the life of the agreement, with not even the mechanism for inflation adjustment. Is that correct?

MR. KORMAN: That's correct, Mr. Chairman.

There is a mechanism for adjustment, but not for inflation.

And let me say a word or two about the SESAC agreement on
the same condition as you do, that Mr. Ciancimino will
correct me if I'm wrong. SESAC is an enterprise whose
gross income is in the order of three to four million dollars
a year.

In terms of its judgement as to what fee is likely or would have been likely to come out of these proceedings had it participated, had it been in effect living in here, it seems to me very clear that the amounts would have been in excess of the \$50,000 that was agreed on, and in excess of anything they could reasonably have expected to receive.

SESAC, in my judgement, used excellent used excellent business judgement by making an agreement at \$50,000 a year and sparing themselves the expense, other than the occasional trips Mr. Ciancimino has had to make here, of participating and getting an expert economic witness, and perhaps outside counsel geared up to present its case.

Moreover, SESAC knew because we had engaged in joint negotiations with the public broadcasters what BMI also knew, namely, that it was quite likely that ASCAP would be here to do battle rather than to accept the terms

that Public Broadcasting had been offering. So that the SESAC \$50,000 agreement, I think we said this in our statement, if you relate that number to SESAC's share of the total performing rights collections, ASCAP and BMI have about 160 million. And you make some projections as to what ASCAP and BMI are likely to come out of here, I think that SESAC did well. And I think, as a matter of fact, whether we call it a bonus or a premium, SESAC probably was given something a little extra in the minds public broadcasters to reach the agreement that was reached so that it could be used in the fashion that it was used here, to try to keep down the price that would be paid where ASCAP is concerned.

My counsel reminds me that--Mr. Koenigsberg for the record--that the SESAC agreement, of course, is based on revenues as SESAC has testified. And is, to that degree, based on their commercial rates to that degree a close analogy from what we have--based on the commercial rates. I misspoke, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: I'll give you a chance to rest, Mr. Korman. I have a few questions for Mr. Smith.

Mr. Smith, as a prelude to the first question, let me read a sentence from the BMI-Public Broadcasting-NPR license agreement. "Broadcast Music, Inc.(BMI) hereby grants to the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) and its public

television station, PBS stations, and to National Public Radio, Inc., (NPR) and its public radio station--" et cetera, et cetera. If it's the position of the Public Broadcasting Service and NPR that the networks are not subject to the Copyright Act, why does this agreement purport to confer a license on PBS and NPR?

MR. SMITH: That is a very good question and a very difficult one to answer. It's really historical I think. The first arrangement we made was with SESAC. And SESAC licenses both performing and recording rights.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: That's why I made reference.

MR. SMITH: I understand that. When we moved from the SESAC agreement, which was concluded before the BMI agreement and indeed the Harry Fox agreement, and this does not get to the substance of your question. But in terms of how we looked at it, we simply took the opening words—

I mean, this is how it practically worked—of the SESAC arrangements. However those words were created at the time, I can't remember.

Now, as to the substantive question, I have always believed, and I know Mr. Aleinikoff has always believed and through the congressional hearings and everything, that PBS would not be licensed for performing rights. And we can get into that. I mean, this is a prelude, I think I'd like to speak on that issue as well.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Sure.

MR. SMITH: I think that's always been our position, that we do not publicly perform, as simply a technical adjunct, as the report says, to others' performance as a way of getting them the program. Mr. Latman also tells me that there are things in the BMI agreement, such as audiovisual and things like that, that might also be a justification, including PBS in that arrangement.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Yes, but your general statement indicates that you compare BMI to ASCAP, and you indicate that they both only deal with performance rights. And we have other clauses which present us the same difficulty. For example, there is language which I'm sure originated with PBS in which BMI is required to idemnify the two networks. And again, we have the same logical question as to why that provision was included if the networks are not performing.

MR. SMITH: Since PBS and NPR, the entities, they are going to be making these payments on behalf of all their membership. We're a membership organization; our stockholders are the stations that are within NPR and PBS. PBS had to be in that agreement. In fact, we are the party with whom BMI is contracting, PBS and NPR, and all its stations. It could have been drafted in such a way as to separate out PBS for direct liability for performance.

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It was never our view--and I can say that quite clearly--it was never our view that PBS was a performing organization. But we had to be, as the party who signed that agreement, somehow licensed on behalf of our stations.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: I think it greatly weakens your argument that the networks are not performing. Let me ask you one or two final questions, Mr. Smith. This reference to \$700,000 being a reasonable payment, that of course was calculated on the assumption that the networks are not performing. So, therefore, if this body determined that the networks are performing, we would have to provide an increase in that figure. Would we not?

That is correct. I think the total MR. SMITH: additional income for the network, which is non-duplicative, is something in the order of 18 million, 19 million, except for NPR, that's for television.

> CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Thank you.

MR. KORMAN: Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Mr. Korman.

MR. KORMAN: If I may just make one other point in connection with the question you raised concerning SESAC--. Since SESAC's normal rates are based on wattage and population, wattage does not change through time and population changes only very slowly.

So that if, in effect, they were satisfied with the

\$50,000 at the beginning on the basis of wattage and population, there's no reason for them to be concerned, as there is reason for anyone licensing on a revenue basis to be concerned about changes during the five-year period. I think that's the answer I should have given at first.

MR. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, may I have an opportunity at some point during this to respond also to the questions you asked Mr. Korman?

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Yes, please do now while it's fresh in our minds--if you wish.

MR. SMITH: I think it's clear from the basis of the report language on Section 106 that a broadcasting network, as discussed in that language, is a performing entity. A broadcast network by contract with our affiliates, and it's very hard to get at this, require stations to perform those programs. In our case, we could deliver 5,000 hours of programming a year to our stations. And they could, if they desire to, broadcast 50 percent of them, 75 percent of them, 20 percent of them.

We operate not as a net work, and that's why the word "interconnection" is put into the report. And we insisted on that to make absolutely clear that the activities that we do in recording and distributing programs to our stations would be covered under Clause Two at least. And I don't think that language that talks about interconnection

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has the force and effect that Mr. Korman suggests it does. We think that it applies only to the recording rights functions, distribution functions, not to the functions in Clause One.

The other point I think is while that House language definition that networks perform, we have a very serious questions as to whether, in fact, we, Public Broadcasting Service or NPR perform publicly. Our programs do not go out to people; they go out purely to stations. If we sent them out by mail, for example, as we used to do prior to 1970, when many of the programs were network we didn't have any interconnection—they went out by mail to stations. It's simply a facilitation device to get programs performed by stations. And I don't see that we are—even though under that definition, assuming we were like a commercial network, we certainly would be performing. I think the language is clear there.

Secondly, I don't think it's public performance. And thirdly, Section 118 talks about performer display by stations, not by PBS or NPR or a network. It says: by or in the course of the transmission by a station.

MR. LATMAN: May I add something?

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Yes, Mr. Latman.

MR. LATMAN: Thank you. Picking right up from that last point--Section 118d does divide the activities, as

we all know, into three very distinct activities. Broad-1 cast stations is one, producers and distributors of programs 2 is two, schools and related institutions are three. 3 key question in this part of the proceeding, would seem to 4 me, is not whether PBS and NPR perform, but whether they 5 perform in the course of the transmission made by a non-6 commercial, educational broadcast station. They are not, I 7 think we'll all agree, a non-commercial, educational 8

broadcast station.

In fact, ASCAP's letter says PBS and NPR and regional networks engage in activities described in Clause Two. We agree. We think they are a Clause Two entity. The examples that Mr. Smith gave only emphasize it. For example, NPR still does mail out programs.

Now, in mailing out the programs, they are not performing in the course of the transmission by a station. Putting it another way: if NPR performs and transmits from Washington to WMYC, that's its performance. If WMYC in the Municipal Building of New York City I believe transmits to me that my office at NYU, that is its transmission which is covered by Clause One.

So, I think the question is not whether they perform or not, and not even necessarily whether they perform publicly or not, but whether they perform in the course of a transmission by a station. And I have yet to

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read or hear anything that indicates that the network or the Interconnection can do something that a station does. Clause One is the station.

The transmissions that are talked about throughout Section 118 are the transmissions by stations. For example, the seven-day rule. The seven-day rule is measured from the transmission by a station--not the performance or the transmission by Interconnection to a station.

Now, I had understood--and I would like to ask Mr. Ciancimino if he would want to respond that, for example, even in the commercial world the treatment of networks is quite different than the treatment of stations. I think we all know that. I have heard that SESAC does not license stations--I mean networks--I'm sorry. don't represent that that is so.

And similarly, ASCAP, which I'm sure would always like to compare the PBS, NPR, the regional networks, the commercial networks, treat them quite differently. And the most important part of the whole story is--and I'm taking more time than expected--is that not only does PBS and NPR perform different functions from commercial networks, I think we all agree to that, but more importantly, Section 118 is the key, not the definition of performance, but 118d. And just to sum it up, PBS, NPR and the regional networks do not perform in the course of a transmission by

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a station. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

MR. KORMAN: Mr. Chairman, may I respond.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Yes, in a second, Mr. Korman.

And then I have to recognize my distinguished colleague who is seeking recognition.

Mr. Korman, I have in front of me a document which has been circulated to the Commissioners quite recently, which is a working draft of a proposed final rule, which reflects actions taken up to this point. And I'm reading from the table of contents, Section 304.3, "performances of ASCAP musical compositions by PBS and NPR and their stations."

Now, since this language is similar to what PBS and NPR accepted in the BMI contract, would there be objection to our implying the same terminology in our rule?

MR. ZELENKO: You mean that question for Mr. Latman I gather.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Mr. Latman, yes. I'm sorry.

MR. LATMAN: I will say for myself before confirming this, it's very hard to respond to that in isolation, certainly very hard to respond to that in isolation. We have no question, as I've said before, that PBS and NPR are Public Broadcasting entities and of course you pay—they are covered under this section as they pay. The question is who they should pay. And I don't know if

that language--I would say in isolation, I can't respond.

Maybe Mr. Smith can do better.

MR. SMITH: The activities that are engaged in by PBS and NPR and the regional networks that are covered under Section 118 or the activities specified in Clause Two, we have arrangements with the Harry Fox Agency. We paid for those activities—not by separate and PBS pays part and producers pay another part or stations pay a third part. It's a blanket deal that covers all the activities. So, in that regard, we are paying for music use.

Again, I'd have to say the same things Mr. Latman said, I'd have to know some more about where that's going.

Before we know that, we will know that obviously, we still believe that PBS and NPR have no independent obligation to a performing rights society to pay for their own performances.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Did you say the amount of money involved here was 19 million dollars; was that the figure that you mentioned?

MR. SMITH: I spent an awful long time on
Friday and this morning and over the weekend trying to get
from the corporation and from our own records exactly the
non-duplicative revenue of the regional networks and PBS
and NPR. In the case of the regional networks, it's about
\$200,000. In our case, we would include the Interconnection
costs about—this is a rough estimate because it's hard to

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pull out of the reports because it's not recorded this wav-about 18 million. And I believe that for NPR the number that we estimated was in the neighborhood of six million. plus or minus, a very rough calculation, 25 million at the most.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Thank you, counsel. We shall recess for five minutes.

(Whereupon, a short recess was taken.) CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: The meeting will resume. Mr. Korman.

MR. KORMAN: Very quickly, Mr. Chairman. Networks transmit by stations. And it's the same in the public world and in the commercial world. When Mr. Smith says that there's some doubt as to whether the performances by PBS and NPR are public, it must bring to Mr.Latman's mind, as a teacher of copyright law, it certainly brings to my mind, the arguments made in the early days of radio by the radio stations, seeking to avoid liability on the very ground that their performances, they said, were not public. Why were they not public? Because in one case, they occurred in the privacy of the station's studio, and another case, because they were heard only in private homes.

Now, the courts, early on in the twenties and throughout, those arguments, and it is passing strange to hear them advanced by public broadcasters in 1978.

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CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: I think we have sufficiently ventilated that issue. Commissioner Garcia.

MR. KORMAN: One last point.

CHATRMAN BRENNAN: Commissioner Garcia.

So that the record be clear on this, MR. KORMAN: with reference to the commercial networks, agreements requiring affiliates to take the networks' programs is incorrect. Such a provision would violate the Antitrust laws. Every affiliate has the option to reject any network, just as the Public Broadcasting stations may reject PBS I'm sorry. program.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Commissioner Garcia.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, at the May 31st meeting, a consensus was reached by this Tribunal to adopt the revenue method in principle for determining the liability due to ASCAP by Public Broadcasting.

Both ASCAP and Public Broadcasting were asked to submit their views and suggested language to the Tribunal by Friday, June 2. Both parties complied with this request. And on behalf of the Tribunal, I would like to thank ASCAP and PBS for their response. Both parties have given verbal input.

As a result of this constructive information, I have rethought my original formula and have adopted some of suggestions submitted by both parties. This should make

them both happy. Mr. Chairman, I am prepared to make recommendations to this Tribunal for their consideration.

First, the validity of the revenue method. PBS still argues that revenue is not a good source to value music. I say it is a reasonable measure of music worth, if for no other reason than that the revenue measure of music has been a negotiated arm's length transaction in commercial broadcasting, thus establishing its precedent in the market place.

The second area is that of definition. Again, it has just been discussed by both parties, there are still some question as to what entities fall under Section 118. For purposes of this discussion and until this question can be solved, I propose that this Tribunal adopt the term "perform and Public Broadcasting entity"; thus, using the two terms defined by the statute and explained in the House and Senate report—"perform and public broadcasting entity".

The question of which revenue should be included in the computations has been one of much discussion. I propose that all revenue and support receipt, regardless of the source, should be included. That includes in kind, indirect, et cetera. I further recommend that revenue be defined as gross increases in the excess or gross decreases in liability or a combination of both derived from delivering or producing goods, rendering services or other

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earning activities of an organization during a period. For example, dues, sales of services, ticket sales, fees, interest, dividends and rent.

Support should be defined as the conveyance of property from one person or organization to another without consideration. For example, donations, gifts, grants or bequests. Both revenue and support, as justifying are referred to as revenue for purposes of this discussion.

While I appreciate the various arguments offered by PBS as to why only monetary income should be included, it is the opinion of this Commissioner that such are not valid arguments. I will go into more detail on this subject later.

Commissioner Coulter has expressed concern as to the complexity of the original proposed formula. He felt there were too many steps in the original revenue formula,. and that this would lead to confusion. In an effort to accomodate the Commissioner's concern, I have eliminated the standard deduction of 25 percent of gross revenue for television, and have instead reduced the rate by the same Thus, making the effective rate .3 percent; thus, amount. a one-step formula.

Ironically, the .3 percent is the same figure that Commissioner Coulter used for his base at the previous meeting. PBS raised some valid points regarding the rate

charged to radio, to their radio members, as opposed to rates which were adopted by this Tribunal for non-affiliated stations. They also suggested that the standard deduction for radio should be 50 percent in order to equitably separate the uniqueness of public radio.

They have also made reference to the data which I stated in my presentation on May 31st that I used to determine these percentages. I would like to point now, that it was never my intention to indicate that these were precise percentages. I had no intention of making the deduction a dollar for dollar deduction.

The example of indirect, in kind, et cetera were given merely to illustrate that there are items which are sometimes unique. I do believe, however, that PBS did have a valid point in mentioning that the Tribunal may have discriminated against their membership; and therefore, perhaps discouraged potential members to join.

This, of course, is not the intention of this

Tribunal. SESAC has also expressed some concern with the

decision regarding unaffiliated and college radio stations.

The reconsideration of tis previous motion will be discussed

later. I do feel, or I should say I do not feel that the

uniqueness of public radio is an additional 50 percent

deduction. I do agree that it's more than ten percent.

Therefore, based on the original formula, my recommendation

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is that the standard deduction for radio be increased to 33-1/3 percent. Again, in attempting to keep the formula simple, as requested by Commissioner Coulter, and to be consistent with the elimination of the standard deductions in television, I have reduced the rate for public radio from .6 percent to .4 percent.

The new proposed rates that I am now recommending are .3 for television and .4 for radio, to be applied to to revenue as previously defined. Now, back to the all inclusive revenue recommendation.

This Commissioner has attempted to take into account the PBS concerns by granting only 36 percent of the percentage requested by ASCAP for television; and 33 percent of the percentage requested by ASCAP for radio. If we were to consider monetary income only and base formula, that would certainly not be fair and equitable to the ASCAP members. In addition, it will lead to discrepancies in the reporting of such funds.

Also, if such an approach were adopted, then this Commissioner would have to recommend that the percentage rates should be equal to the effected rate for commercial television and radio. Also, one more point of interest, from the information that I have available, this approach would lead to a higher liability to PBS. However, that is not why I am so strongly against it.

I am opposed to it because of the potential problems that it could create. In further consideration to PBS, I am recommending that the payment schedule be on July 31st and December 31st of each calendar year, based on the previous fiscal year revenue.

PBS has stated that their stations are in a fiscal year of July to June. Thus, this gives them 12 months to report their revenue and make payments — a year of interest free money, and also a year after they have had the benefit. The above change is made because of the difficulties encountered by non-profit organizations in valuing non-monetary income.

To allow or permit Public Broadcasting anymore time would not be fair to ASCAP members, as their money is being used interest free by Public Broadcasting. Also, by allowing the final distribution to be December 31st instead of July 31st, this will allow Public Broadcasting an opportunity to have the final number as certified to the Treasury available, and therefore, make any necessary adjustment to the final payment.

The first payment is to be due on December 31, 1978 based on the gross revenue as certified to the U.S. Treasury for the fiscal year ending 1977. Thereafter, all payments are to be made in two equal payments. As pointed out by ASCAP, the amount or originally proposed of 50 percent should

this schedule shall go into effect June 8th; therefore, I have used that date, rounded to the nearest percent, thus, the first payment due on December 31, 1978 shall be 56 percent of the annual fee.

Public Broadcasting has made an argument that

be 56.4 percent as of June 6th. It is my recommendation that

Public Broadcasting has made an argument that there is no need for any rate to be applied to individual stations; and that they, alone, are in the position to judge overall fairness of their members. It is my proposal that each entity may destinate a reporting and paying agent to ASCAP. Public Broadcasting can make the entire payment for their member. However, a report indicating each entity's call letter and FCC license, if any, name, if any, address and gross revenue and the prorated fee shall be included with each payment.

This will assist ASCAP in distributing these funds to their members and will also comply with the law. The listing with the July 31st payment would include the preliminary number if the adjusted numbers are not available. However, the December 31 listing should reflect the budget as included in the total certified to the Treasury.

Public Broadcasting submitted in their comments that certain instructional close circuit televisions do not come under Section 118, and therefore, should not be included in the base of the revenue formula. It is not the

intention of this Tribunal to go beyond its jurisdiction in assessing royalty fees. The fact that those amounts qualify for matching revenue funds, they should not be confused with those amounts which are subject to royalty fees.

The procedure which I am proposing is a very simple one. Only the non-duplicative revenue of those entities which are covered by Section 118, after we determine what those are, are to be included in the formula. I appreciate that there is some disagreement among each of the parties as to which performing public entity should be assessed royalty fees. That is further support as to why PBS should submit to ASCAP with their payment a detailed listing of all the entities included in the computation and the budget of those entities.

In summary, the highlights of my proposal are:

(1) that the all inclusive revenue method be adopted to compute the fee due ASCAP from Public Broadcasting, (2) revenue is defined as revenues received from all sources, both monetary and non-monetary, with no deductions whatsoever (3) the rates to be applied to this revenue are .3 for public television, .4 for radio until December 31, 1982. Payments are to be made in two equal payments each calendar year on July 31st and December 31st, based on the previous fiscal year revenue as defined. First payment will be made

December 31, 1978 and will be 56 percent of the annual fee.

Mr. Chairman, at this time I make the following motion: all revenue shall be included in the base for the computation of the royalty fee due ASCAP. Revenue shall be defined as revenue received from all sources, both monetary and non-monetary, with no deductions whatsoever. The rate to be applied to the gross revenue shall be .3 percent for television and .4 percent for radio until December 31, 1982.

Payment to be made in two equal payments on

July 31st and December 31st of each calendar year, based on

the previous fiscal year gross income, provided, however, that

payment of fees for uses in 1978 subsequent to the effective

date of this schedule need not be made until December 31,

1978, and will be 56 percent of the total fees due.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: The Commissioner has given the Chair a document which contains these four points.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Correct.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: I take it that that is the full text of the motion?

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Correct.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Is there any discussion?

Commissioner Burg?

COMMISSIONER BURG: Commissioner Garcia, have you come up with what indeed the dollar figures would be for the revenue base in 1976 and 1977?

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Based on the preliminary 1 numbers of the 412 million, the fee for 1976 would be 2 approximately 1.224. 3 COMMISSIONER BURG: Have you gone further for 4 another year? 5 COMMISSIONER GARCIA: We do not have the 1977 6 preliminary number available to us. 7 COMMISSIONER BURG: You mentioned that 8 Commissioner Coulter -- . 3 percent, you never really 9 official submitted that proposal. Did you? 10 COMMISSIONER COULTER: No, I didn't. 11 COMMISSIONER BURG: I have no other questions 12 right now. 13 CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: What is the pleasure of 14 Commissioners? 15 (No verbal response.) 16 CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: The Chair would express the 17 view that the first issue to be resolved is whether or not 18 the Commissioner's motion is in a form which will allow us 19 to act on the subject. Do Commissioners have any views on 20 that matter? Commissioner Coulter? 21 COMMISSIONER COULTER: May I request your opinion 22 on that? 23 COMMISSIONER BURG: I have an opinion too--24

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Commissioner Burg.

COMMISSIONER BURG: I think it ought to be broken down, number one, into sub parts.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Speaking not as the Chair, but as an individual Commissioner, I agree with Commissioner Burg. I think, Commissioner, we really need a little bit more than what we have in front of us in terms of seeing to the vote.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: What is it, Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: I would think we would need something similar to the attachment of the ASCAP letter.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Mr. Chairman, I appreciate what you're saying. However, it was my intention that the meeting today was to discuss the revenue formula and the particular issues that were unsettled at the last meeting. Now, if you're suggesting that I have final language for you, then it was my intention that this would take place tomorrow in connection with the other decisions that we have also made in just voting the pertinent points and not getting down to the final language. I stand corrected if that's not your intention.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Perhaps what we could do would be if you could frame a few issues for our consideration that we could resolve in principle or informally, and then act tomorrow on official language.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Mr. Chairman, the four

points that I am asking you to adopt for the basis of the revenue formula for ASCAP is one, and that is the all inclusive revenue formula, which means that both non-monetary monetary income would be included, that the rates applicable to the all inclusive revenue formula would be .3 for television and .4 for radio.

The third point would be the way in which these payments would be made. Two equal payments are to be made on July 31st and December 31st.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: What is the pleasure of Commissioners?

COMMISSIONER JAMES: Let's vote.

COMMISSIONER COULTER: I would go along with your definition of revenue.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Yes, I think the best way to proceed would be to try to break down into a series of individual issues and we could possibly resolve those in principle, and then act tomorrow on formal language.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Very good.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Is there any further discussion on the Commissioner's motion?

(No verbal response.)

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: The Chair interprets the pending motion as to approve in principle the revenue formula which has been proposed by Commissioner Garcia.

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CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Does the Commissioners motion 2 preclude the possibility subsequently of our deciding to 3 apply this to the initial year, subject to the 4 inflation adjustment? 5 COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Yes. 6 CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Commissioner Coulter? 7 COMMISSIONER COULTER: You say does it preclude 8 that? 9 COMMISSIONER GARCIA: The motion that I have on 10 the floor is independent of any further considerations 11 that the Commissioners would like to make. 12 COMMISSIONER COULTER: So, if I'm correct, it 13 would not preclude doing what the Chairman suggested? 14 15 COMMISSIONER JAMES: She said it would. COMMISSIONER BURG: It would. 16 CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Perhaps we could informally 17 turn this around and decide whether there is, in fact, any 18 interest? 19 COMMISSIONER JAMES: I have none. 20 CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: You have none. Commissioner 21 Coulter? 22 COMMISSIONER COULTER: In having this applied to 23 the first year, and then be frozen in--yes. 24

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: The Chair has an interest.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Correct.

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COMMISSIONER JAMES: I'm again getting confused on the procedure. Are you asking us to rule on a motion that you're offering now, as an amendment to--

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: No, the pending motion, Commissioner is Commissioner Garcia's motion to adopt her revenue formula subject to the final language being ratified later in the week. As part of the discussion of that motion, I am inquiring if there is any interest among Commissioners in having this formula apply for the determination of the initial payment, and then have that rate frozen until 1983.

COMMISSIONER JAMES: Going back to your hypothetical?

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Yes.

COMMISSIONER JAMES: Why don't we take a vote on your hypothetical?

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: That's what I'm trying to do informally.

COMMISSIONER JAMES: Oh, okay.

COMMISSIONER BURG: I'm definitely against, completely and strongly against revenue formula period. But I'm also interested in the dollar figure. And if your hypothetical gets that figure down lower than this proposal, I have an interest.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Commissioner, could we

proceed on this basis, that we would vote now on your motion subject to reserving my right or the right of another Commissioner to subsequently move to have this modified as I previously indicated?

COMMISSIONER JAMES: Mr. Chairman, you've always had that right, you always have the right to reconsider.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: If there is no further discussion we shall proceed then to the vote on the motion of Commissioner Garcia. In accordance with temporary rules, we shall a recorded vote. The vote "yea" obviously is a vote to approve the Commissioner's proposal; vote "nay" is the converse. Commissioner Coulter?

COMMISSIONER COULTER: Yes.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Commissioner Burg?

COMMISSIONER BURG: No.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Commissioner James?

COMMISSIONER JAMES: Yes.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Commissioner Garcia?

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Yes.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: The Chairman votes "yes". The vote is four "yeas" one "nay".

In order to get an indication of the sentiment of the Commissioners, I will move that we apply Commissioner Garcia's formula which we have just adopted in principle, ascertain the total payment by applying that formula to

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the latest available PBS figures, fix that payment in the final rule, subject to the inflation adjustment. any discussion on the motion?

(No verbal response.)

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: If not, we will proceed to the vote. Commissioner Coulter?

COMMISSIONER COULTER: Yes.

COMMISSIONER JAMES: What are you doing now? Will the Chairman please explain for this Commissioner what the procedure is now, because I somewhat agree with Commissioner Burg. We have voted on a revenue. We took a straw vote. Now, are you asking that we now attempt to amend her original motion subsequent to the vote being taken? It's past.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Yes. What I'm doing is suggesting, Commissioner, that we--

COMMISSIONER JAMES: You said an amendment to the--

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Yes, but we agreed that we would adopt this proposal. And what I am doing now is proposing that it be further redefined in the fashion I indicated. And I offer that as an amendment to what we have previously adopted.

> COMMISSIONER JAMES: Off the record for a minute. (A discussion was held off the record.)

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: The Chair moves to reconsider the previous vote on Commissioner Garcia's proposal. All those in favor--Commissioner Coulter?

COMMISSIONER COULTER: Yes.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Commissioner Burg?

COMMISSIONER BURG: Yes.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Commissioner James?

COMMISSIONER JAMES: No.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Commissioner Garcia?

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: No.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: The Chair votes age. The "ages" are three; the "nays" are two. I now move that the motion of Commissioner--yes.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Does Commissioner Burg's vote count since she was not on the prevailing side--

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: The Commissioner has a right to vote, but not a right to offer the motion. I now move that we amend Commissioner Garcia's proposal in the fashion I previously indicated, in which the formula would be applied to ascertain the amount of the payment based upon the latest certified figures, which we are told are 1.24.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Approximately.

MR. SMITH: Just for a point of information, my information based upon '77 is that formula would yield between 1.4 and 1.5 million dollars.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: That's '77?

MR. SMITH: Yes.

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The motion is to use the CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: figure certified for fiscal year 1976, which has been estimated to produce 1.2 million dollars, subject to the inflation adjustment. Is there any discussion on the amendment?

COMMISSIONER JAMES: Yes. Would somebody--I presume you, Mr. Chairman--explain to me the rationale and how we're being fair and equitable to the little people who are the members of ASCAP, I have to assume, by adopting a formula or actually we're setting a flat rate, if I understand your hypothetical, the question has now turned to a motion. Aren't you using subdiffuge when you say that you apply the revenue formula to come up with a flat rate, and then apply the flat rate in your rule.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: All I am precluding is this rate being adjusted until 1983, other than for the inflation adjustment. We are using the revenue formula to establish what would be a reasonable rate. But then providing that it shall apply throughout the life of the schedule.

COMMISSIONER JAMES: But, in essence, what you're doing is going with a flat fee?

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: A flat fee calculated on the

basis of revenue.

that we've been talking all along about 1976 are the numbers that were in the 1977 status report for CPB, those numbers are also preliminary numbers. Those are the same numbers that are now available for 1977 numbers. We do have the certified number, as certified to the Treasury made available to us. Mr. Smith, do you have any idea what that number is?

MR. SMITH: The certified number is a non-federal financial number. We have been trying in the last two days for FY'77 to get the number you're reaching for.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: What is it for 1976?

MR. SMITH: The total number?

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Yes.

MR. SMITH: Well, the number we've gone with and that you've gone with is for the total income is 412. No one knows at this point exactly what the number is you're reaching for, which is licensees, either plus or minus networks non-duplicative.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: My question is this, you're satisfied with that 412 as being the final number for 1976?

MR. SMITH: For total system income including production, houses and CPB as well?

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Everything.

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MR. SMITH: That 412 does not go to the Treasury. That is a number created purely by CPB. I can't tell you whether 412 is the final number. I believe I'm correct in saying that as yet there is no final number for FY'76. I think I mentioned before--I mean, it's within that ballpark. But there are still auditing stations to get to the--.

COMMISSIONER JAMES: Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Commissioner James.

COMMISSIONER JAMES: As I understand your amendment to Commissioner Garcia's motion, this is 1978 that you're going to take a figure on 1976, total system-wide revenue, is that my understanding?

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Yes.

COMMISSIONER JAMES: I'd like your legal opinion on whether or not that complies, by using that total system figure, does that comply with the mandate of the statute, number one. And number two, does your amendment, how do you allocate the payment down to how each entity is to contribute to that overall?

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: On the latter point--

COMMISSIONER JAMES: Because I think they're going to have to go back and get all the budgets, and you plan them on a total figure. And we're getting back to the process that Commissioner Coulter was opposed to, that is

getting some complexity, because you have to take the total budget, get a percentage of each station entity and apply it against the total base. Now, you don't have a problem with that now, I would imagine, Commissioner Coulter?

COMMISSIONER COULTER: It was part of one of my proposals anyway.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: It's apparent that the motion does have sufficient appeal.

COMMISSIONER COULTER: I thought we were just in discussion.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: The Chair withdraws the motion.

COMMISSIONER JAMES: That leaves us again with Commissioner Garcia's motion.

COMMISSIONER BURG: Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Commissioner Burg.

COMMISSIONER BURG: Then I would like to offer a motion that uses that 1.2 million to 1.224 million as the flat fee and not based on revenue, would be the fee payable to ASCAP, but not have it tied into revenue, because we're getting into a situation where you can't really determine—

COMMISSIONER JAMES: There's a motion on the floor
Commissioner Garcia's motion, which was reconsidered is
now on the floor.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Commissioner Burg can offer a

substitute.

COMMISSIONER BURG: That is, in effect, what I'm doing.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Commissioner Burg has offered a substitute motion, the pending motion then is Commissioner Burg's substitute. Any discussion on the substitute?

(No verbal response.)

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: We shall vote on Commissioner Burg's substitute. Commissioner Coulter?

COMMISSIONER COULTER: No.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Commissioner Burg?

COMMISSIONER BURG: Yes.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Commissioner James?

COMMISSIONER JAMES: No.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Commissioner Garcia?

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: No.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: The Chair votes no. "Ayes" are one; "nays" are four. The question recurs now on Commissioner Garcia's motion.

COMMISSIONER COULTER: I'd like to offer an amendment to Commissioner Garcia's motion so we can handle this question of figures. In other words, rather than worry about the specific certification, since that seems to cause complications, we simply use the currently

accepted 1976 figures that have been presented to us
during the entire course of this proceeding as the base.

Since no other figures have been presented to us to make
any decision, I would like to move that they be used, those
figures be used to establish the rate, using Commissioner

Garcia's revenue method, that that be fixed as you suggested.

COMMISSIONER JAMES: I'm sorry. What was the

last part?

COMMISSIONER COULTER: That that be fixed and be the rate for the period of consideration.

COMMISSIONER JAMES: What period of consideration?

COMMISSIONER COULTER: The five-year period.

COMMISSIONER JAMES: Mr. Chairman, that's the

COMMISSIONER COULTER: No, he said there was a problem with certifying figures, and I said don't worry about the certification. Just use the figures we've been dealing with all along.

exact same vote that was just voted on.

COMMISSIONER JAMES: Mr. Chairman, is that or is that not your motion?

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: My motion was withdrawn; it wasn't voted on.

COMMISSIONER JAMES: Oh, okay.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: You've heard the motion of Commissioner Coulter. Is there any further debate?

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(No verbal response.) 1 CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: We shall vote on Commissioner 2 Coulter's motion. Commissioner Coulter? 3 COMMISSIONER COULTER: COMMISSIONER BURG: Would you please state it again. 5 COMMISSIONER COULTER: It's to use the '76 figures 6 that have been presented to us during the course of these 7 proceedings, to apply to it the revenue formula that 8 Commissioner Garcia has produced, and set that as the rate 9 for the five-year period, with an inflation adjustment. 10 COMMISSIONER GARCIA: How often is the inflation 11 adjustment? 12 13 COMMISSIONER COULTER: Do we have to get into that on this particular --14 COMMISSIONER JAMES: Yes. 15 CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: It's provided already in our 16 general decision, that any flat rates would be open for 17 adjustment, January 1, 1981. 18 COMMISSIONER COULTER: Can we just open to 19 general inflation adjustment? 20 COMMISSIONER BURG: Is that the 412 million? 21

I mean, the base revenue figure, that would yield 1.224 million?

COMMISSIONER COULTER: I'm just including the idea of the revenue base.

1	CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: We will vote now on
2	Commissioner Coulter's motion. Commissioner Coulter?
3	COMMISSIONER COULTER: Yes.
4	CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Commissioner Burg?
5	COMMISSIONER BURG: Yes.
6	CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Commissioner James?
7	COMMISSIONER JAMES: No.
8	CHAIRMAN BRENNAN; Commissioner Garcia?
9	COMMISSIONER GARCIA: No.
10	CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: The Chair votes aye. The
11	"ayes" are three; the "nays" are two. Commissioner
12	Coulter's motion is adopted.
13	COMMISSIONER JAMES: This was an amendment to her
14	motion?
15	CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Yes.
16	COMMISSIONER JAMES: Now we've got to vote on
17	the motion as amended; right?
18	CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: That's correct. Is there any
19	further discussion on the motion which is now essentially
20	the Coulter substitute? Commissioner Coulter?
21	COMMISSIONER COULTER: No. Please, that was a
22	vote, my vote is yes.
23	CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Commissioner Burg?
24	COMMISSIONER BURG: Yes.
25	CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Commissioner James?

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COMMISSIONER JAMES: No.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Commissioner Garcia? COMMISSIONER GARCIA:

No.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: The Chair votes ave. motion as amended by the substitute has been adopted by a vote of three "ayes", two "nays". Is there any further action required in connection with the ASCAP formula at this time?

(No response.)

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: We have a request from the counsel for SESAC, that he be given the opportunity to comment on decisions tentatively taken at last week's meeting. We have informed a representative of the Intercollegiate Broadcasting Network of this request, and we shall be also glad to hear such a representative. there is no objection, I will call upon Mr. Ciancimino.

MR. CIANCIMINO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. kind of difficult to ask this Tribunal to focus upon figures which amount to approximately \$60 a year or \$20 a year after just considering figures amounting from 1.2 to 1.5 million. And I think it might be going from the sublime to the ridiculous. But I would ask the Tribunal to please try to understand that the Tribunal's activity covers large organizations as well as small organizations. And each organization -- regardless of size -- has its own internal

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problems and its own internal policies that it must follow.

Along these lines, I would call your attention to last week's meeting, when the discussion for non-commercial broadcast performing rates came up, there were two steps, as I recall, that were discussed and voted upon by this Tribunal. The first was a series of alternate approaches as to how to divide whatever monies this Tribunal sets as fees to be paid by college and unaffiliated stations two or three organizations.

The second step was the discussion and adoption tentatively of actual rates for college and unaffiliated stations. Now, I would direct my remarks initially to the first part.

As I recall, the first suggestion that was made was to have a sum, a set sum which would then be divided among the three performing rights organizations in a certain proportion. And as I recall, initially, Commissioner James suggested that in light of the nominal amounts involved that the monies be proportioned equally, which would have meant that ASCAP, BMI and SESAC each would have received one—third of whatever the rate would be for both college and unaffiliated stations.

That was defeated as Commissioner Coulter then suggested a 40-40-20 formula for distribution of these fees. That also was defeated, and it seems like the further down

along the table we went, the dimmer SESAC's future became in this area. The final proposed proportion which was adopted, I think officially it was Commissioner Burg's motion. But I think Commissioner Brennan also indicated the preliminary tendency towards that percentage split, was the 45-45-10 split, which would give 10 percent to SESAC.

Now, I ask as an advocate strictly and not speaking for performing rights in general, but as an advocate for SESAC, I ask that this Tribunal consider in light of the rates that were later set, and I remind you that tentatively there are \$400 for unaffiliated stations and \$200 for college stations, and the unaffiliated area, there's a 20-watt cut-off, so that only those unaffiliated stations over 20 watts would be paying the \$400. I'll get to that particular issue in a few moments.

But as to the division and as to how it applies to SESAC, I would ask this Tribunal to consider that it's my understanding that Section 118 and Congress in enacting that section wish to encourage the voluntary licensing of Public Broadcast entities. And I think the language of 118 indicates as much insofar as such agreements voluntarily negotiated are explicitly given precedence over any rates set by the Tribunal.

SESAC did try to comply with the intent of Congress; I believe we were the only one of the three

organizations that did initiate immediate licensing proposals to the unaffiliated and collegiate stations not covered by our general license with Mr. Steinbach's group. We have been quite successful, I would submit, in negotiating some 85 licenses based on the rate schedule which we have submitted to the Tribunal, which runs from \$60 as a minimum to \$180 as a maximum.

And I have for inspection produced copies of these licenses, so that the Tribunal can readily ascertain that this spread is not entirely in the lower element, it's spread right through the rate schedule. And there are \$180 licenses, \$150 licenses, \$100 licenses, as well as \$60 and \$90 licenses. I submit to the Tribunal that a ten percent fee to SESAC, based on the current amounts set, which would be \$20 to collegiate stations would render our prior efforts at negotiating voluntary agreements with almost half of the stations licensable, would render them completely useless because I don't see how SESAC could maintain a rate with a college station or an unaffiliated station that has voluntarily signed an agreement based on our rate schedule.

How can we voluntarily maintain that in effect when the Tribunal is, other the other hand, saying to us that we must now offer other stations, possibly exactly the same as nomenclature, a license for \$20.

I would submit also that the \$20 rate, in effect, makes college stations unlicensable so far as SESAC is concerned. We are dealing here with a deminima (ph) situation. For us to send out a license to a station that contains a \$20 fee, and for us to handle that license when it comes back if it's signed, or if it's not signed to follow up and see that it is signed, so that the law is complied with. I suggest to you that this effort on the part of SESAC would leave extremely little for the affiliate to have as a royalty fee.

With regard to the unaffiliated stations, the ten percent to SESAC would yield \$40 for each of the unaffiliated stations, which doesn't even come to the minimum rate that has been complied with, with almost half of the stations that we've negotiated with. And I would say to this Tribunal that the decisions taken last week should be reconsidered so that the voluntary license agreements are allowed to stand, and not just by language of the Tribunal which says that they will, in effect, adopt these agreements, because as a practical matter, SESAC cannot live with a grievance that are so far out of line with a \$40 fee set by the Tribunal. But that the Tribunal consider a split which would at least bring SESAC's percentage within the rate schedule.

I would submit to this Tribunal that a 40-40-20

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split, which would allow SESAC \$80 on a \$400 total license fee to an unaffiliated station would do just that. And I would ask that the Tribunal reconsider Commissioner Coulter's prior motion and adopt a 40-40-20 split in this area.

And I am further advised that there will be language in the Tribunal's regulation that specify that any split agreed to by the Tribunal will not be binding upon the Tribunal insofar as any future determination of distribution of monies in other areas is concerned. And I have no difficulty with that language whatsoever.

Now, Mr. Chairman, shall I go on to my second point or--?

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Yes, I believe so.

MR. CIANCIMINO: The second point is the distribution for the setting of fees on the basis of \$400 for unaffiliated stations and \$200 for college stations. And the inclusion of the 20-watt cut-off just for the unaffiliated stations. I would suggest to the Tribunal that there is no justification in my mind for the 20-watt cut-off applying only to the unaffiliated stations.

In fact, it would seem to me that if a list of non-commercial stations were to be compiled, and if this list were to indicate the larger, more well-budgeted, the better off, independent and college stations insofar as

finances are concerned, that you would find toward the
the top of that list in the main your larger college and
university stations, and not your independent or smaller
religious stations. And to have a rate which would cause
such a large college station to pay half of what an
independent station pays, to me seems to be most inequitable.

I would suggest that the 20-watt cut-off be applied, not only to the independent, unaffiliated stations, but also to the college stations as well, so that all non-commercial stations over the 20-watt cut-off would pay the \$400 rate. Those would be my two suggestions to this Tribunal. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Mr. Tellis, do you wish to-MR. TELLIS: Yes, I do.

We've got a couple of different points, as
Mr. Ciancimino has raised. First of all, the issue of the
Voluntary license agreements that are signed already that
Mr. Ciancimino referred to, the 85 voluntary licenses
that were signed. A quick check on those seem to indicate
that the majority are religious affiliated schools and
stations, they're involved in those. And by an informal
survey, it would appear that most of those agreements were
signed by station people that were unaware that this issue
was still before the Tribunal as far as setting rates.

I cannot see why someone would sign an agreement

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for \$180 when the Tribunal was considering a rate that was significantly lower, and the station had nothing to loose by waiting until the Tribunal made its decision. So, for that reason alone, it would seem that most of the stations would sign, if not all. And certainly most would have signed out of an unawareness of that.

So, I don't consider the agreements that have been signed as a valid precedent for consideration by the members of the Commission in the sense that I think they were signed by people who were not totally informed of the situation, or else I don't think they would have signed it.

The college stations budgets are significantly lower than most of the unaffiliated stations. You will find that the differential is warranted in the case of college stations. The \$200 figure for higher than ten-watt stations is not an unreasonable figure. But 400 becomes very unreasonable. The one thing that we had strong objection to about the rate structure was that under this, a ten-watt college station would have to pay the same figures as a higher powered college station, in the case particular with ASCAP, where no radio is included under the per student fee.

In the case of BMI and SESAC, the smaller class d, ten-watt type stations are both included in the per student fees that the colleges are already paying under a separate

agreement. In the case of ASCAP, that is not true. So, they would have to pay the same rate. Our proposal is that class d, ten-watt stations, which are the little people, which are the poor stations, and they also happen to be the majority of non-commercial radio licensees.

They don't have the high-priced counsel organizations representing them that the more affluent groups do, but they are the small people and they cannot afford these kinds of rates. We would propose that for non-college ten-watt stations, that the rate be half those proposed for the college stations. That would put that more in line because we feel that particularly the ten-watters would be burdened with this kind of situation. But we feel anything more than the proposed \$200 limit, even the \$200 limit is straining things a bit for most of the stations. Anything beyond that would certainly be very difficult to carry.

I think also in considering the college stations, one of the differential reasons here between the two different rates for unaffiliated and college stations is the fact that colleges have already reached separate agreements with the licensing organization for other music uses, which would include on campus music, and is part of the reason the rates were negotiated in particularly two out of three cases, because they included the smaller

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college radio stations. So, there is a basis for differential in the rates.

We don't believe that the rates that are adopted, that are proposed would be a detriment to the people at NPR or at CPB. As far as college stations go, in the sense that the budget figures, since they're going to be based on revenue, the budget figure for a typical NPR station would run about 100,000 or so; whereas with an over ten-watt college station, you're talking about maybe 20,000 tops. So, you're talking about a five to one ratio.

And the figure based on the calculations that were done are about a three to one ratio on a fee for those budgetary figures. So, no, it is not out of line and we don't believe it would discourage—certainly we would not like to see the college stations suffer with anymore of a burden than what's already been proposed.

Mr. Steinbach, do you wish to speak?
MR. STEINBACH: Not at this time.

MR. CIANCIMINO: Just one or two points,
Mr. Chairman. SESAC has kept the Tribunal well informed
as to the number and rate upon which licenses have been
received. I would submit that the rate of reception of
licenses from these stations have been fairly steady. And
they have been received as recently as last week.

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I guess the point I'm trying to make is that if these stations have not been informed to date of what their rights are, what their options are, I would suggest that perhaps the representatives at this table have not done a very good job of informing them. But I would suggest to this Tribunal that these stations are advised and do understand the situation, and did receive letters from SESAC, and felt in the main--. When I say they felt, I'm talking about 43 percent I believe, which is a fairly high percentage, felt that the rates suggested by SESAC were fair and reasonable. And this is the reason that they would sign, and that there was no ignorance on their part of substance that would explain the high rate of signees. Thank you.

MR. STEINBACH: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to respond to that on behalf of our colleges. I don't know where these schools have come from who have signed these licenses. I assume that among them, there are several of them that belong to our organization, which is the major umbrella organization in higher education. Yet, we only represent 1,300 colleges out of an estimated 3,000, including from the initial letters that I saw from Mr. Ciancimino as to the schools that had signed, which at that time was somewhere in the neighborhood of 30 to 40, there were just one or two or three of ours.

I think those are readily explainable by the diverse nature of our institutions and that the licenses went to the radio stations in many instances and somebody signed off on them without clearing it further up the line. I have not checked those things specifically.

But I think overwhelmingly of the number of institutions that are members of our organization who have received a broad based, detail, 23 page document, outlining the nature of our agreement, they have accordingly with good common sense, held off signing any of the SESAC agreements pending determination here. I find the evidence here, my way of thinking, to be very--not be particularly pursuasive whatsoever as to the acceptability. If anything, it is to the gullibility of some people, some institutions who are otherwise uninformed or otherwise been misled.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Are there any motions on the part of Commissioners?

COMMISSIONER COULTER: I felt that since the question of the inflation adjustment came up and was left unresolved as a result of our last series of votes, that sense this is a public meeting, we obviously should resolve that question here. And I'm prepared, Commissioner Garcia, in the case of the ASCAP rate to have the inflation adjustment every year. I would like to make that motion.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Perhaps we can first dispose

of the college and unaffiliated stations.

COMMISSIONER COULTER: I'm sorry.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Are there any motions on that?

COMMISSIONER JAMES: No.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Does any Commissioner desire to reconsider previous actions?

COMMISSIONER JAMES: I voted no, so I can't do it.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: There are no motions forthcoming,

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Mr. Chairman, in lieu of NPR's concern that we would perhaps discourage membership in their organization by discriminating against their members, and overall I appreciate that there has been a ceiling placed on the original formula. I think in all due respect to what we have here, I'm going to deviate a little but, as a privilege offered a commissioner and say this to my fellow Commissioners: I appreciate that there was some concern as to what the total revenue formula originally proposed by me would render.

And one of the Commissioners expressed the sums were too high. I just want to put this in the proper perspective. The sums that we were talking about would have never exceeded three-tenths--or I should say three-thirty ones of a tenth of the PBS and NPR and the other performing public broadcasting entities. And the amount that

and I give--

we were also talking about that would be rendered to ASCAP, we're talking about approximately one percent of the gross revenue. So, I think I'd feel a lot happier if the Commissioners would just keep that big picture in mind. While it sounds like it's a lot of money, the 1.2 million, I just wanted to put that into perspective for you, that in any million dollar increase in PBS and all other Public Broadcasting entities, we were talking about \$3,100.

Now, having put that to rest, and with the concern I have with the NPR stations, and at this time our fee will, even though there has been a ceiling, my formula will probably average to a thousand dollars for each station. I certainly do not think that this is equitable that NPR should be punished that way. And therefore, I make a motion that the non-affiliated stations and college stations also be subjected to the same formula, not to exceed a thousand dollars per station.

Therefore, Mr. Chairman, the effective rate would be .88 for radio. That would mean .4 for ASCAP, .4 for BMI and .08 for SESAC, which would be in keeping with the original breakdown of Commissioner Burg, 45 percent and ten percent.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Calculated on which revenue, Commissioner?

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COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Okay. For the nonaffiliated stations, it would be on their total budget. For the college stations, I appreciate that we have a unique animal there, and that the licenses are issued to the university. So, it would only be the budget allocated to the radio stations.

And Mr. Chairman, at this time, I have no idea--I'll save a question--as to how much revenue that would produce.

COMMISSIONER JAMES: Can we have a flat rate, as most of the Commissioners appear to want, instead of going with a fee based on revenue. Because as I understand, the majority of the Tribunal now has opted for a formula based on revenue. But are applying for the five-year period, a flat dollar amount. Is that my correct understanding?

So, asking Commissioner Garcia, wouldn't it be better just to continue with, instead of going back to the formula, a flat rate, just increase the rate. And my amendment would be to raise unaffiliated up to a thousand dollars and leave the colleges and universities as is.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Commissioner James, if we could read back the record, I think that is the intention of my motion. It was not to exceed a thousand dollars.

Perhaps I should have added for the next five years, with the exception of whatever it--

COMMISSIONER JAMES: No, I think that's what your motion did. But I'm just defining a little better. Let's just pick the dollar figure instead of having to go through the gymnastics of figuring out what the revenues of a college station might be, because I'm sure they get a lot of ancillary revenue and support from other department budgets. And it's going to be almost impossible to ascertain what an individual college radio budget is on an exact dollar.

Ohio State budget, for the total university is something like four and a half feet high. And there are things that are contributed by the medical school, you know, their telecommunications center--it's just impossible. I know just by one university, you can't do it.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Do we have a motion on the floor?

COMMISSIONER JAMES: I've got an amendment to your motion. Does the Chairman understand my amendment? I will repeat it over.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Yes, I would think Commissioner ought to offer a text.

COMMISSIONER JAMES: I'm just taking what you basically already approved, what's in this document here.

I'm just raising leaving colleges alone, and raising on -- 306 can stay the same. Let's see if I got it right, 304.6 would stay the same, Mr. Chairman because NPR, which is Commissioner Garcia's concern, is not pertained in 304.6. 304.7, which is the Public Broadcasting, or NPR's concern would be the one I suggest the dollar amount be raised. Use the same language, just raise the amount.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: And the amount would be?

COMMISSIONER JAMES: I think I'm the wrong one to put the amount because I didn't really support this motion anyway. But I'm saying for simplification, rather than go back to that formula—

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Is that my motion you're amending, I beg your--

(General laughter.)

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: You're in good shape, Commissioner James.

COMMISSIONER JAMES: Okay. Let's make it a couple thousand dollars under the same procedure that you have.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Some of the Commissioners were occupied, so would you state your motion?

COMMISSIONER JAMES: My motion is to leave
Section 304.6 as it is now constituted, as drafted by
the Chairman, in tact; and that we amend 304.7, leaving the

1	language as is, parts one and two to reflect the maximum
2	dollar split-up of \$1,000.
3	CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Is there any discussion?
4	MR. CIANCIMINO: Just a point of clarity on
5	my part. I don't know if I'm out of order. But
6	Commissioner James said a maximum of a thousand dollars. I
7	had understood his original proposal to be a flat \$1,000.
8	COMMISSIONER JAMES: The 400 is going to a thou-
9	sand.
10	MR. CIANCIMINO: But it's not a maximum, it's
11	just a flat rate
12	COMMISSIONER JAMES: Flat rate, I'm sorry. Did
13	I say maximum?
14	MR. CIANCIMINO: Yes.
15	COMMISSIONER JAMES: I stand correct. May the
16	record so indicate that I meant flat.
17	CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Is there any further discussion?
18	(No verbal comment.)
19	CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: We will vote on Commissioner
20	James' amendment. Commissioner Coulter?
21	COMMISSIONER COULTER: No.
22	CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Commissioner Burg?
23	COMMISSIONER BURG: No.
24	CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Commissioner James?
25	COMMISSIONER JAMES: Yes.
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CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Commissioner Garcia?

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Yes.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: The Chair votes yes. There are three "ayes" and two "nays". The amendment is adopted. Commissioner Garcia's motion has been modified. Can we take it that the modified motion has been adopted?

COMMISSIONER JAMES: You can, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: So agreed.

Are there any further matters to come before this meeting?

MR. STEINBACH: Mr. Chairman, just a point of clarification on our part. Do we understand that on behalf of the colleges that there is a flat rate of \$200 as proposed originally and that will be calculated based on the percentages outlined by Commissioner Garcia?

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: That's correct.

MR. KORMAN: I understood that Commissioner

Coulter had a motion about to be made concerning the inflation adjustment. And in trying to answer not at two hour length as Mr. Clemton did at Cambridge, I did not mention all as you invited me to do, objections to the hypothetical which has now been adopted. So, I suppose I ought not to go on in any great length. I would like to say that the rate of growth, 1977 or 1976 was about 15 percent. I understand the number for 1977—

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: Mr. Korman, actually you have no right to be heard. And there is objection. Is there any further business before this meeting?

(No response.)

CHAIRMAN BRENNAN: We will recess until 4 o'clock tomorrow afternoon.

(Whereupon, the meeting was recessed at the call of the Chair at 4:30, p.m.)